TF Vector Control (Harvey) Summary September 18, 2017 (1:00 PM CDT)

## **Current Members:**

TX Department of State Health Services

TX Department of Agriculture

ESF 8/Health and Human Services/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

FEMA- Emergency Services

FEMA -Public Assistance

FEMA- Environmental Historical Preservation

FEMA External Affairs

FEMA Ops

Department of Defense/910<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing

EPA

US Fish and Wildlife

## **Current Situation:**

Texas requested federal support for Vector Control (mosquito). Current requirements have exceeded local and state capabilities. FEMA is coordinating federal vector control support in coordination with Texas Department of State Health Services (TX DSHS). Dr. Whitney Qualls, Medical Entomologist, TX DSHS is the Project Coordinator for vector control.

TX DSHS continues to determine local jurisdiction needs and capacity. Local jurisdictions with current plans and capacity will conduct activities themselves. The remainder of affected counties will be supported by TX DSHS contract with Clarke Mosquito, Inc. (Clarke), and Vector Disease Control International (VDCI), and Department of Defense (DoD) aerial assets.

TX DSHS is managing all State of Texas Assistance Requests (STAR) from affected counties for mosquito aerial spray support (Attachment A).

TX DSHS updated its mosquito spray mission maps on September 18, 2017 (Attachment B). As additional needs are identified through STARs and missions are completed, TX DSHS will coordinate with DoD to update maps.

TX DSHS's contractor Clarke was scheduled to conduct spray operations during the evening hours of September 17, 2017 in Wharton, Austin, and Waller counties. Update will be provided next report. To date, Clarke has completed spray operations in Aransas, Bee, Calhoun, DeWitt, Jackson, Jim Wells, Kenedy, Kleberg, Lavaca counties, Refugio, and San Patricio.

Three modular aerial spray system (MASS) aircraft from the 910<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing conducted spray operations in Harris, Liberty, and Montgomery counties during the evening hours of September 17, 2017, treating 302,019 acres. Since September 9, 2017, DoD has treated 2,064,303 acres with 11,120 gallons of Dibrom Concentrate, EPA Registration Number: 5481-480. Three MASS

aircraft scheduled to continue spray missions in Harris, Liberty, and Montgomery counties during the evening hours of September 18, 2017. Federal operations are 70.5% complete with operations completed in Brazoria, Chambers, Jefferson and Orange counties.

VDCI was scheduled to conduct spray operations in Walker County during the evening hours of September 17, 2017, and is scheduled to conduct spray operations in Polk and San Jacinto counties during the evening hours of September 18, 2017. Update provide next report.

DoD is returning empty pesticide containers to the originating vendor daily.

FEMA external affairs and DoD PIO are coordinating closely with TX DSHS media affairs on messaging for DoD aerial spray mission. Harris County Department of Public Health reported citizen concerns over the aerial spraying of Naled. TX DSHS is developing message to address these concerns. The most current TX DSHS press release attached (Attachment C).

Dr. Whitney Qualls (<u>whitney.qualls@dshs.texas.gov</u>), TX DSHS, State Coordinator will circulate all public messaging, product data, and processes centrally through the State.

Tasks: FEMA R6 Senior Environmental Specialist/Team Lead requested EPA registration risk assessment information for active ingredients in Dibrom (Naled) and Duet (Prallethrin, Sumithrin, & piperonyl butoxide) during the September 15, 2017 task force conference call. R6 provided FEMA with the most recent EPA Registration Eligibility Decisions for these active ingredients, and requested information from the Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP) on any current or additional risk evaluation documentation on September 15, 2017. R6 provided FEMA with a copy of the "USFWS Biological Opinion on Selected Pesticides: dated June 14, 1989" on September 16, 2017. Still awaiting additional information requested from OPP.

Next TF Vector Control (Harvey) Teleconference: 3:00pm CDT September 18, 2017